



**KISII UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)  
SECOND SEMESTER 2023/2024  
[JANUARY – APRIL, 2024]**

**LING 122: SEMANTICS**

**STREAM: Y1 S2**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**DAY: THURSDAY, 3:00 - 5:00 P.M**

**DATE: 04/04/2024**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Do not write anything on this question paper.**
- 2. Answer question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.**

**QUESTION ONE**

- a) What do you understand by the word “semantics?” (2 marks)
- b) What are the contributions of the following scholars to the development of semantics? (12 marks)
- Michel Breal
  - Alfred Korzybski
  - Odgen and Richards
  - Leonard Bloomfield
- c) Describe the following forms of meaning. (8 marks)
- Thematic meaning
  - Conceptual meaning
  - Associative meaning
  - Connotative meaning
- d) Explain any four fallacies of misunderstanding in language. (8 marks)

**QUESTION TWO**

- a) Explain the following theories of meaning. (12 marks)
- Ideational theory
  - Referential theory
  - Usage theory

- b) Explain how semantics relates to other disciplines. (8 marks)

**QUESTION THREE**

Explain linguistic variations that are evident in word order by using the following concepts. (20 marks)

- i) Tautology
- ii) Paraphrase
- iii) Ambiguity
- iv) Entailment
- v) Analyticity

**QUESTION FOUR**

- a) With the aid of appropriate examples, show how change in meaning overtime has occurred in linguistic semantics. (10 marks)
- b) Briefly describe the major areas of emphasis in the study of semantics. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE**

- a) What are the essential features of English words? (8 marks)
- b) Identify any three figures of speech and explain how they enhance meaning in literary language. (12 marks)